

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 059043  
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 INR-07 PM-04 SP-02 /039 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:NAVELIOTES-NEA/IAI:WBSMITHII:SKG

APPROVED BY NEA:NAVELIOTES

-----170741Z 075519 /11

R 170109Z MAR 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 059043

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT IS

SUBJECT: ISRAELI ELECTION TRENDS

1. FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS ARE FURNISHED, FOR WHAT THEY MAY BE WORTH, FOR INCORPORATION INTO EMBASSY'S ONGOING ANALYSIS OF ISRAELI ELECTION OUTLOOK. WE HAVE RECEIVED COMMENTS BELOW FROM LOCAL ISRAELI SOURCE WHO IS CLOSE TO ABBA EBAN AND HAS HAD CONTACT WITH HIM IN PAST FEW DAYS. ACCORDING SOURCE, PRINCIPAL QUESTION ON WHICH CAMPAIGN WILL TURN IS WILLINGNESS OF PERES GROUP, IN WHICH HE INCLUDES EBAN, TO CAMPAIGN VIGOROUSLY FOR ALIGNMENT TICKET. PERES REPORTEDLY IS CLAIMING THAT RABIN'S VICTORY WAS DUE PRIMARILY TO ALLON'S BEING ABLE TO DELIVER BLOCK OF ARAB VOTES, LEADING TO CLAIM THAT PERES GROUP REALLY REPRESENTS "NEW" MAPAI MAINSTREAM. PERES GROUP DEMANDING COMMITMENT FROM RABIN TO GIVE IT ADDITIONAL CABINET SEATS IN RECOGNITION OF NEW STATUS. SOURCE EMPHASIZES THAT PART OF STRATEGY IS TO BURY USE OF WORD "RAFI" IN KEEPING WITH NEW BROADER LEADERSHIP  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 059043

CLAIM (INDEED INCLUSION OF EBAN AND OTHERS IN THIS GROUP WOULD SEEM TO LEND SUBSTANCE TO THIS CLAIM). RABIN ALLEGEDLY IS UNDER GREAT PRESSURE TO CAVE TO THESE DEMANDS. MEANWHILE, PERES ET AL LITERALLY SITTING ON THEIR HANDS.

2. ANOTHER THEME PRESENTED BY SOURCE AS EBAN'S VIEW IS THAT LABOR ALIGNMENT WILL BENEFIT BY INABILITY OF LIKUD TO

FOCUS ITS CAMPAIGN ON DOMESTIC ISSUES. THIS LINE RUNS THAT BEGIN IS ALWAYS BEGIN, AND HE IS BEST THING RABIN HAS GOING FOR HIM. IT IS DIFFICULT FOR VAST MAJORITY OF ISRAELIS TO CONCEIVE OF BEGIN ACTUALLY DEALING EFFECTIVELY WITH PERSONS OF STATURE OF U.S. PRESIDENT AND OTHER MAJOR WORLD STATESMEN. THIS POINT OF VIEW EVEN CONCEIVES OF NEGATIVE FOREIGN DEVELOPMENTS WHICH TAKE HEADLINES AS POSSIBLY BEING TO ADVANTAGE OF LABOR ALIGNMENT, SINCE THEY DIVERT ATTENTION FROM RABIN'S WEAKNESS IN DOMESTIC AFFAIRS (OBVIOUSLY, EVEN PROPONENTS OF THIS POINT OF VIEW RECOGNIZE THAT THERE IS A LIMIT TO HOW MUCH NEGATIVE NEWS THIS PARTICULAR THEORY CAN BEAR).

3. AS CONCERNS DMC, SOURCE SUGGESTS THAT PROTEST MOVEMENT MAY HAVE PEAKED TWO MONTHS BEFORE ELECTION WITH REAL PROSPECT OF UNRAVELLING DUE TO HETEROGENEOUS NATURE AND PERSONALITY DIFFERENCES. SINCE MOST DMC SUPPORT IS DERIVED FROM THOSE PROTESTING AGAINST DOMESTIC ISSUES, SHOULD THIS HAPPEN IT UNLIKELY THAT MANY OF ITS SUPPORTERS WOULD SWITCH TO LIKUD, PARTICULARLY SINCE BEGIN INSISTS ON FOCUSING LIKUD ENERGIES AND PUBLICITY ON NONDOMESTIC ISSUES.

4. WE OF COURSE DEFER TO EMBASSY'S JUDGMENT AS TO VALIDITY OF ANY OF ABOVE POINTS. EMBASSY'S REPORTING ON ELECTION TRENDS IS OF COURSE BEING READ WITH AVID INTEREST BY GROWING WASHINGTON READERSHIP. NOW THAT ELECTION IS DRAWING NEARER, WE ASSUME EMBASSY ANALYSIS WILL INCREASINGLY INCLUDE REPORTAGE OF FIRST-HAND DISCUSSIONS WITH PROMINENT POLITICAL FIGURES, INCLUDING CABINET MEMBERS, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 059043

AND TOP ISRAELI POLITICAL COMMENTATORS IN WORLD OF JOURNALISM.  
VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ELECTION FORECASTS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 17-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE059043  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** NEA/IAI:WBSMITHII:SKG  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770091-0729  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770349/aaaabqjb.tel  
**Line Count:** 100  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 3b0d7db6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3075526  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ISRAELI ELECTION TRENDS  
**TAGS:** PINT, IS  
**To:** TEL AVIV  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/3b0d7db6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009